Central Teams have visited all the above States except Kerala. All the Teams have submitted their reports. In case of Kerala the State Government has been requested to furnish further information and clarifications.

It is estimated that the loss of production in kharif foodgrains production will be of the order of 18.72 per cent. Shortage of fodder and drinking water is also being experienced in many States, States have taken many steps to deal with the situation including initiation of relief works, provision of drinking water including its transport through Rail in Rajasthan, setting up of fodder depots, remission of land revenue and in many cases stocking of foodgrains at the village level. Certain States have suspended recovery of co-operative dues and not resorting to coercive measures to effect recovery. Power supply for a minimum period and seed subsidy for growing fodder etc. are some other notable steps taken by the State Government.

Foodgrains and financial assistance for drought affected States

†*66. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that relief is not reaching the drought affected victims;

(b) if so, what is the total assistance provided to drought affected States, in terms of foodgrains and financial assistance;

(c) how much was made available to the drought victims;

(d) what was their total demand; and

(e) to what extent it fell short of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

† Starred Question Nos. 62, 66 and 70 were taken together.

Statement

(a) to (e) Drought is a slow on-set phenomenon showing improvements and aggravations in its protracted course depending on occurrence of many events. Keeping these factors in view, it would be pre-mature to assess whether the assistance provided is adequate.

So far, Rs.1227.29 crores of Central share of the Calamity Relief Fund(CRF) for 2002-2003 and 19.25 lakh MTs of foodgrains for carrying out relief employment works have been sanctioned. Further, an amount of Rs.1999.14 crores has been found admissible for assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund(NCCF) subject to adjustment of balances in the Calamity Relief Fund of the States. The situation will be further reviewed in middle of January to assess the requirements of further assistance. The relevant details are in the Statement-I (*See* below).

Provision of relief on the ground is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned. The Central Government supplements these efforts. No specific complaints of relief not reaching the affected population have so far been received.

Statement-I

Details of assistance demanded and extended to drought affected States

S. No.	State	Demand from NCCF* (Rs. in crores)	Assistance found admissible subject to adjustment of CRF Balances** (Rs. in crores)	Foodgrains allocated (in lakh MTs)	Central share of CRF released (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1210.90	174.61	3.00	163.77
2.	Chhattisgarh	880.66	92.73	0.50	22.72
3.	Haryana	1895.98	109.65	0.25	67.23
4.	Himachal Pradesh	155.86	39.45	0.10	35.96
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	1623.98	—	—	14.43

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Jharkhand	1467.25	42.06	0.40	—
7.	Karnataka	1562.85	221.46	2.00	61.66
8.	Kerala@	—	—	—	55.60
9.	Madhya Pradesh	790.38	125.89	1.00	51.78
10.	Maharashtra	1730.61	20.00	—	129.99
11.	Orissa	871.40	120.18	2.00	90.52
12.	Punjab	3529.44	125.41	—	101.47
13.	Rajasthan	7519.76	207.68	7.00	171.16
14.	Tamil Nadu	1545.76	228.30	0.50	84.87
15.	Uttaranchal	401.81	10.62	0.50	13.38
16.	Uttar Pradesh	7539.79	481.10	2.00	120.95
17.	West Bengal	—	—	—	41.80

* For the whole year.

** First instalment till middle of January after making allowance for available balance in the Calamity Relief Fund(CRF) i.e. these amounts will be reduced to the extent States have balances in the CRF to deal with the drought.

@ Not indicated.

Additional relief to rain-deficient States

†*70. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:††
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether nine-rain-deficient States have sought Rs.16,741.96 crore additional relief from the Centre;

(b) if so, whether these States have sought relief from Natural Calamity Contingency Fund;

† Starred Question Nos. 62, 66 and 70 were taken together.

†† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ravula Chandra Sekar Reddy.